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# RANGELAND PROGRAM SUMMARY

## For The GARNET RESOURCE AREA

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BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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## United States Department of the Interior

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Dear Reader:

This Range Program Summary describes the present status of the range management program in the Garnet Resource Area and explains how changes will be made in grazing management based on land use decisions and current policy. The land use decisions were published in the Garnet Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (RMP/EIS) (1985) and in the Record of Decision for the RMP/EIS.

Sincerely,

James A. Moorhouse  
District Manager

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**RANGELAND PROGRAM SUMMARY**  
**FOR THE**  
**FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT**  
**GARNET RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**BUTTE DISTRICT**  
**BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**  
**DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR**

**MONTANA**

**AUGUST 1986**



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# RANGELAND PROGRAM SUMMARY

## INTRODUCTION

The Garnet Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (RMP/EIS) and the subsequent Record of Decision (ROD) established the management direction for the Garnet Resource Area and the grazing management program for the resource area. This Rangeland Program Summary briefly describes the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) program in managing livestock grazing as it is related to and/or effects vegetation, wildlife use and habitat, watershed and soil conditions, cultural resources, and other resources or land uses.

Allotments with significant resource use conflicts or opportunities and which were deemed manageable have been earmarked for improvement. Under the categorization process, these are improve (I) category allotments.

The BLM's future efforts in developing activity plans, investing in range improvements needed to place these plans into action, and monitoring the change brought about will concentrate on this group of allotments targeted for improvement. The RMP provides management objectives for all allotments in the I category; these objectives will direct resource specialists in developing the livestock grazing prescriptions found in the activity plan.

Appendix A of this document will summarize current authorized livestock use.

## BACKGROUND

The Garnet RMP/EIS covered 145,660 surface acres of public land in three western Montana counties: Missoula, Granite, and Powell (see Location Map). The area included 82 allotments with 79 operators having an authorized use of 5,930 animal unit months (AUMs). Allotment management plans (AMP) have been completed on 73,490 acres of public and adjacent private lands. Table 1 lists the AMPs

TABLE 1  
EXISTING ALLOTMENT  
MANAGEMENT PLANS

AMP Name	Acres Public	Acres Private	Total
Five Mile Creek	480	—	480
McElwain Creek	6,358	3,485	9,843
Wales Creek	856	640	1,496
Devil Mountain	2,018	8,991	11,009
Braziel Creek	8,105	2,080	10,185
Warm Springs Creek	7,361	13,567	20,928
Marcum Mountain	3,443	2,319	5,762
Ram Mountain	4,151	2,825	6,976
West Fork Buttes	640	1,280	1,920
Stewart Lake	2,251	2,640	4,891
Total	35,663	37,827	73,490

and their acreages. The AMPs set management objectives for improving the range, watershed, soils, wildlife, and forest resources. The areas are monitored and evaluated each grazing cycle to determine if progress is made toward achieving the AMP objectives.

Nine of the ten existing AMP allotments would remain under intensive grazing management. One existing AMP allotment, Devil Mountain (7201), would be placed under custodial management since the allotment boundaries have been modified to exclude livestock use from much of the original AMP area and resource conditions are satisfactory on the remaining grazed acreage.

Existing vegetative condition is summarized as follows: 8 percent in excellent condition, 17 percent in good condition, 10 percent in fair condition, and 1 percent in poor condition. The balance of the acreage, totalling 64 percent, is in tracts that are presently unsuitable for livestock use, generally due to heavy stands of timber on steep mountainous terrain.

Approximately 78 percent of the resource area is commercial forest land. Each year approximately 1,216 acres will be included in the annual timber harvest. Elk, mule deer, whitetailed deer, and moose are the primary big game species, along with smaller numbers of bighorn sheep. Upland game bird species are primarily ruffed, blue, and Franklin's grouse. Numerous trout fisheries can be found on the area, along with isolated but important nesting sites for geese and bald eagles.

## THE PROGRAM

### What It Is

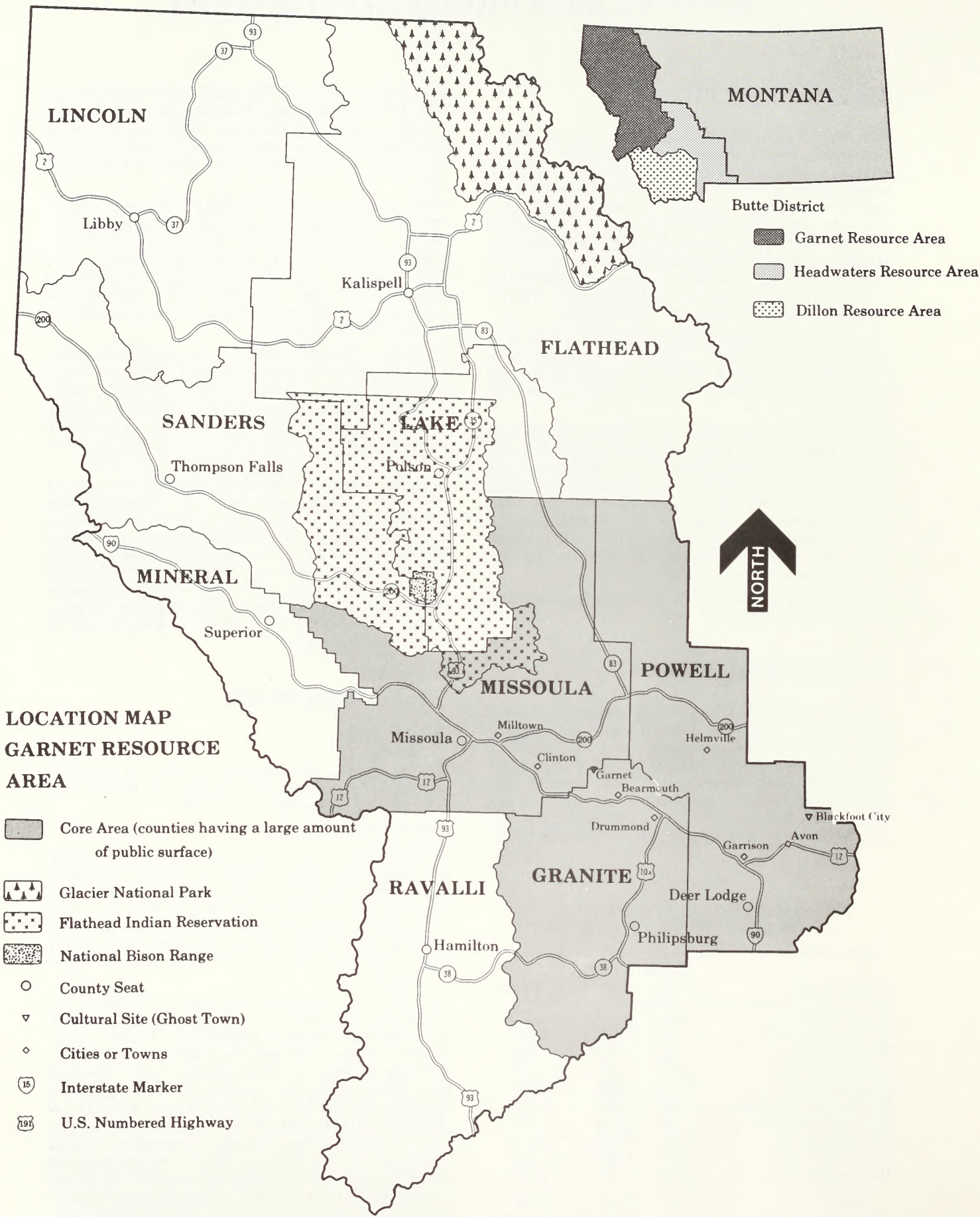
The Rangeland Management Program to be implemented is the Preferred Alternative, Alternative E of the RMP/EIS, selected in the ROD.

### Livestock Use Levels

In compliance with current bureau policy, the initial allocation for livestock forage in all allotment categories (M—maintain, C—custodial, I—improve) is a continuation of current use levels. Of the 11 allotments in the I category (see Table 2), six are slated for upward adjustment in livestock forage over the short term, while the other five will remain at the same AUM level.

Target levels of adjusted livestock use were developed based on range condition ratings and the Soil Conservation Services *Montana Grazing Guides* (USDA, SCS n.d. Section 400, amended, May 1983, Woodland Grazing Guides). In reviewing the target stocking rate figures and other recommended changes, it is emphasized that the target AUM figures are not final stocking rates. Rather, all livestock use adjustments will be implemented through documented mutual agreement or by decision. When adjustments are made through mutual agreement with no AUM use level changes, they may be implemented as developed and then announced in a Rangeland Program Sum-







**TABLE 2**  
**NEW ALLOTMENT MANAGEMENT PLANS PROPOSED FOR I ALLOTMENTS**

Allotment Number and Name		BLM Acreage	Current AUMS	Short-Term Target for AUMS
7101	Bonita-Clinton-Potomac	12,143	200	250
7102	Weaver	4,410	121	121
7104	Lund #1	8,942	145	181
7105	McMahon	1,460	37	37
7106	Iverson	3,937	44	55
7108	Lund #2	3,518	148	175
7109	Murray-Douglas Cr.	5,908	182	182
7219	Mannix	2,000	55	67
7221	Murphy	1,103	58	73
7312	H. Luthje	2,866	324	324
7324	Collins #2	1,362	110	110
Total		47,649	1,424	1,575

mary update. Where changes in AUM use levels are contemplated, the agreements will be announced in an RPS update and a public review period provided. When livestock use adjustments are implemented by decision, the decision will be based on operator consultation, range survey data, and monitoring of resource conditions. These decisions will also be announced in the RPS updates. Current BLM policy emphasizes the use of a systematic monitoring program to verify the need for livestock adjustments proposed on the basis of one-time inventory data.

The purpose of the consultation process is to reach agreement on necessary adjustments in use levels or management and eliminate the need for implementation by decision.

#### **Grazing Management**

Eleven existing allotments would be placed under intensive management (Table 2). These 11 allotments will place an additional 81,294 acres of public and private land under intensive management. All new AMPs would be based on allotment specific multiple use management objectives addressing identified resource opportunities and conflicts (see Table 3).

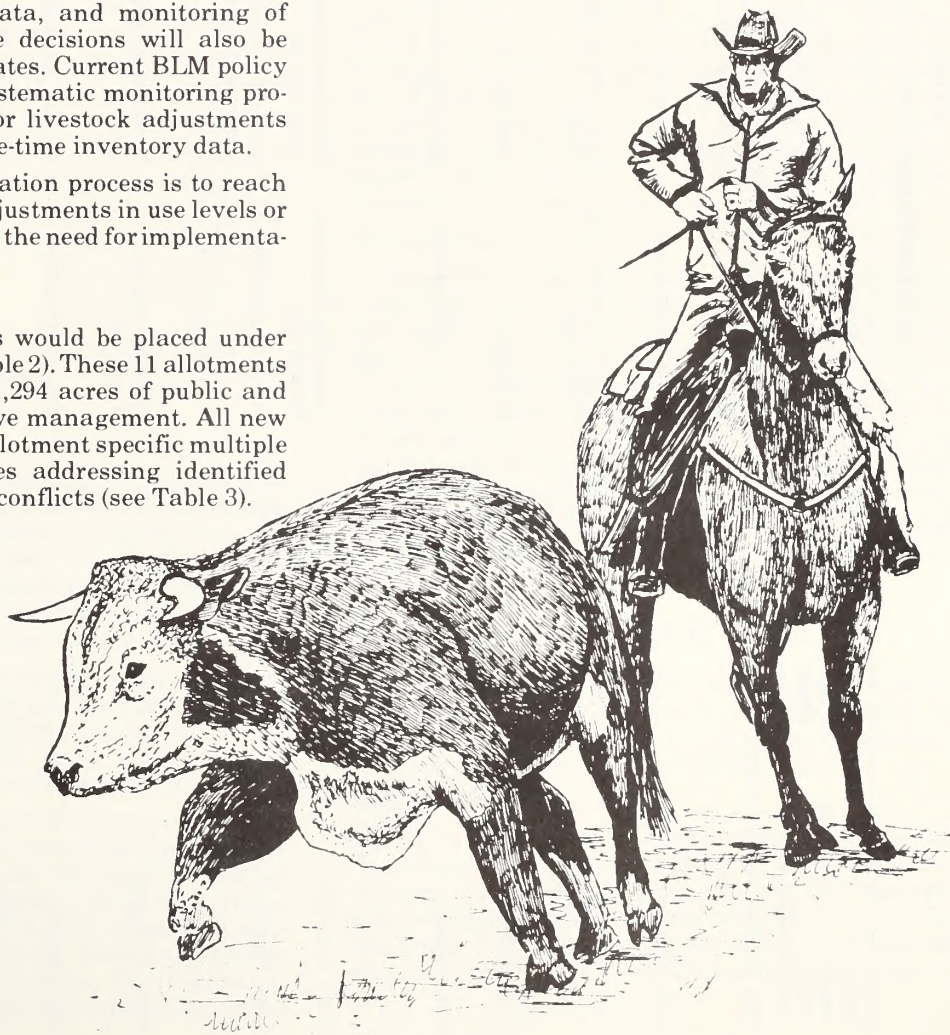


TABLE 3  
ALLOTMENT RANKING FOR I ALLOTMENTS

Allotment No.	Allotment Name	Total Cost x \$1000	Benefit Cost Ratio	Internal Rate of Return	Critical Resource Values	Use Conflicts	Need for Change in Condition	Percent Increase	Dependency*	Other Agency Coordination	Other Factors Considered	Proposed Rank
7101	Bonita-Clinton Potomac	22.0	3.6		Forest-mod Wildlife-low Water-mod	Reforestation areas, spring game range, riparian area	Low/mod	91	High	High-CT/SCS/PCT	Very high interest by all parties	1
7102	Weaver	11.5	2.8	10.6	Forest-low Water-mod Veg-high	Reforestation, riparian area	Low	12	Mod	None	—	5
7104	Lund #1	20.6	2.3	12.6	Forest-high Water-mod Wildlife-high	Reforestation, riparian, winter range	Mod	38	Mod	High-CT/PCT	Extensive timber harvest by BLM/CT/PCT	2
7105	McMahon	18.5	1.9	4.7	Forest-mod	Reforestation	Low	25	High	High-CT	—	8
7106	Iverson	13.9	1.7	7.3	Forest-high Water-mod	Reforestation, riparian	Mod	64	High	None	Main road to high rec. use area, Garnet Ghost Town	4
7108	Lund # 2	13.0	1.7	9.6	Forest-high Water-mod Wildlife-mod	Reforestation, riparian, winter range-mule deer	Mod	15	Mod	High-CT/PCT	Extensive timber harvest	3
7109	Murray-Douglas Cr.	17.3	1.6	14.8	Forest-mod Wildlife-mod	Proposed reforestation, summer and fall range	Low	61	Low	Mod-CT	Proposed long-term timber harvest. Important elk hab.	6
7219	C. Mannix	11.9	1.5	3.2	Forest-low Veg-mod Water-mod	Reforestation, grass species, riparian	Low/mod	3	Mod	None	Watershed potential, fish habitat	7
7221	Murphy	19.0	1.4	0.8	Water-mod Veg-low	Riparian, grass species	Low	45	High	None	—	9
7312	H. Luthje	16.2	1.3	8.0	Forest-mod	Proposed sales	Low	48	Low	High-FS	Coord. FS/BLM Timber Sale	10
7324	Collins #2	5.65	1.4	13.0	Forest-mod Wildlife-mod	Reforestation, winter and spring range	Low	20	Low	None	—	11
TOTAL		169.5										

\* Dependency of ranch operation on use of public lands in grazing operation

PCL — Plum Creek Timber  
CT — Champion Timberlands, Inc.  
SCS — Soil Conservation Service  
FS — Forest Service

1. The totals in this column are cumulative discounted costs.



These 11 allotments have been assigned a priority rank based upon resource needs, resource potential, and benefit cost analysis. Allotments with a high benefit cost ratio, high resource values, and significant use conflicts generally received a high priority for changes in management, and are thus proposed for a higher rank (see Table 3). Other factors which were considered, include potential for increased forage production, the livestock operators dependency on public land for grazing, the need to coordinate with other land managing agencies, and the projected cost of implementation. The District Manager considered the recommendations of the District Grazing Advisory Board when assigning a final priority rank for implementation (see Table 4).

**TABLE 4**  
**SUMMARY OF FINAL ALLOTMENT**  
**RANK FOR IMPLEMENTATION**  
**AND INVESTMENT**  
**MAY 1986**

Rank	Allotment Name	Allotment Number
1	Bonita-Clinton-Potomac	7101
2	Lund #1	7104
3	Lund #2	7108
4	Iverson	7106
5	Weaver	7102
6	Murray-Douglas Cr.	7109
7	Mannix	7219
8	McMahon	7105
9	Murphy	7221
10	Luthje	7312
11	Collins #2	7324

The priority rank directs immediate attention to allotments with greatest potential for improvement in wildlife habitat, watershed and vegetative conditions, forest management, and livestock forage production. Intensive management of these allotments will include specific management plans, range improvements, treatments, and monitoring.

The management objectives found in Appendix L of the RMP will guide the development of grazing management prescriptions. Research and literature, tempered by experience, are the basis for developing grazing systems to meet the management objectives.

Activity plans were not prepared prior to writing the RMP/EIS. Therefore, the environmental analysis in the RMP/EIS addressed the aggregate effect of changing livestock use authorization and range improvement construction. It did not assess site-specific effects that would result from implementation of an activity plan. Therefore, Environmental Assessments (EA) will be prepared prior to approval

of activity plans. Among other things, the EAs will examine alternative actions, assess impacts, and mitigate undesirable impacts where possible. The most common management actions used to correct livestock grazing problems appear in Appendix I of the RMP. The types of grazing systems that are in general use are described in Appendix J of the RMP.

### Range Development

Range improvements needed to place grazing systems into effect will receive priority for funding. The RMP preferred alternative contains estimates of 53 miles of fence construction, 19 cattleguards, 32 spring developments, 3 miles of pipeline, and 300 acres of noxious weed control to be implemented over the approximate 20 year life of the plan. These estimates may be refined as individual plans are developed. Range improvements commonly used in the area are described in Appendix I of the RMP.

### Cultural Resources

The BLM recognizes that some of the proposals in the rangeland management program could affect historical and archaeological properties. Therefore, prior to approval, the BLM will conduct intensive field inventories of these specific areas (see Appendix B). If cultural resources are found, proposed range improvements will be relocated to avoid these sites. However, where this is not possible, BLM would consult with the Montana State Historic Preservation Officer and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) in accordance with the Programmatic Memorandum of Agreement between BLM and ACHP, dated January 14, 1980, which sets forth procedures for appropriate mitigation of adverse impacts.

### Monitoring

A rangeland monitoring and evaluation plan has been prepared for the resource area (see Table 5). This plan sets up a schedule that specifies the type, frequency, and intensity of studies by allotment. I allotments and existing AMPs that have resource conflicts or need substantial improvement will be closely monitored. Future grazing use adjustments will be based on the results of this monitoring. Range condition data will be updated on a continuing basis as required by Section 4(a) of the Public Rangelands Improvement Act and Section 201(a) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act.

## Net Effect or What It Does

The assumptions made and procedures used to calculate the environmental impacts listed below can be found in the Environmental Consequences section, Chapter 4, of the draft Garnet RMP/EIS.

### Range Condition

Figure 1 illustrates the expected changes in vegetative condition over the long term (20 years) under the resource management plan. The major long-term effect on native vegetation will be an improvement in the kinds and amounts of vegetation produced on sites that are now in poor or fair condition. Some of

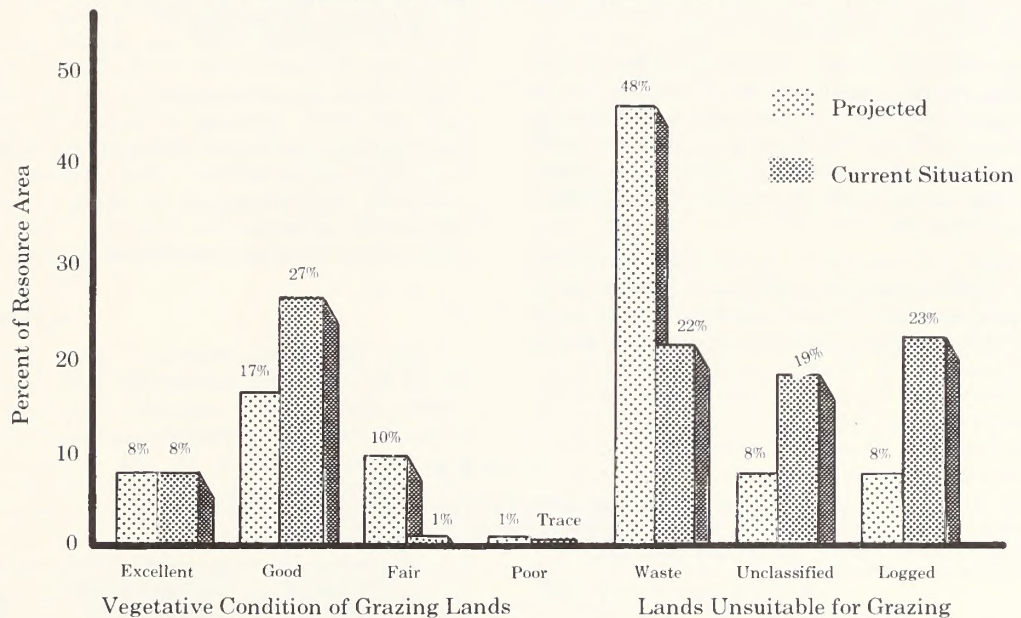
**TABLE 5**  
**RESOURCE MONITORING AND EVALUATION PLAN**

Element	Item	Location	Technique <sup>1</sup>	Unit of Measure	Frequency and Duration	Info. Warranting a Decision Change
<b>Vegetation</b>	condition	all M&I Allotments	as outlined in SCS National Range Handbook Section 305 <sup>2</sup>	% pounds production compared to climax allowance	end of each grazing cycle	condition is reduced one class
	trend	a. all M&I allotmentsts	canopy-coverage (Daubenmire), <sup>3</sup> soil surface factor (MSO-7100-1), <sup>4</sup> photos	change in % of surface area	a. end of each grazing cycle	decrease of 10 percentage points from base data
		b. any allotment where adjustment in preference is proposed			b. first and fifth year, then on 5 yr. interval	
	cover	M&I allotments	canopy-coverage (Daubenmire), <sup>3</sup> photos	% of surface area	end of each grazing cycle	decrease of 10 percentage points from base data
	utilization	M&I allotments	key forage plant <sup>5</sup>	% forage removed	annually at end of grazing cycle	utilization more than 50% on native grasses
	precipitation	M&I allotments	site specific rain gauges, RAWs units, <sup>6</sup> NOAA data <sup>7</sup>	inches of precipitation	monthly during growing season	consider with temperature data to determine utilization level
	temperature	M&I allotments	NOAA data, <sup>7</sup> RAWs data <sup>6</sup>	degrees F or C	monthly during growing season	consider with precipitation data to determine utilization level
<b>Riparian Habitat</b>	condition and trend	MA 1, 2, 9	photo plot, <sup>8</sup> cover board Daubenmire <sup>3</sup> aerial photo (IR)	% of total surface area, habitat characters	frequently while gathering 1 yr. data base for: AMPs with unsatisfactory riparian and improvement category allotments with unsatisfactory riparian and MA2 with planned timber harvest; read once per cycle in pastures with grazing system and once every 4 yrs. for allotments with no cycle ie. same every year; read prior and once every year for 5 yrs. after timber harvest; monitor present satisfactory riparian when management action occurs	either deterioration or no improvement is noted in habitat that is presently in unsatisfactory condition, deterioration is noted in habitat presently in satisfactory condition



- <sup>1</sup> Monitoring activities between differing elements and within the same element will be conducted and/or coordinated so as to reduce duplications, travel time, etc. and thereby increase efficiency while reducing costs. The existing Studies Index System will also be used as a tool for tracking and scheduling monitoring plans.
- <sup>2</sup> USDA. Soil Conservation Service. 1976. *National Range Handbook*. Washington D.C.
- <sup>3</sup> Daubenmire. 1959. "A Canopy Coverage Method of Vegetational Analysis." *Northwest Science*. 33(1):43-64.
- <sup>4</sup> USDI. Bureau of Land Management. 1981. *BLM Manual*. Section 4430.5. Denver, CO.
- <sup>5</sup> USDI. Bureau of Land Management. 1984. *Rangeland Monitoring: Utilization Studies*. Technical Reference 4400-3. Denver, CO.
- <sup>6</sup> RAWs. Remote Automatic Weather Station operated by BLM.
- <sup>7</sup> NOAA. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.
- <sup>8</sup> USDI. Fish and Wildlife Service. 1981. "Riparian Trend Station; Adoption of Vegetation Profile Board."

**Figure 1**  
Predicted Changes in Vegetative Condition and Classification



the poor condition sites would improve to fair condition and some of the fair condition sites would improve to the good condition. These projections are based on the potential of the vegetative community that presently occupies a site to improve in response to changes in grazing management and other land management practices, such as timber harvesting. The actions of timber harvesting will provide more forage by opening up a stand of timber and also provide physical access to these new forage areas. Approximately 48 percent of the resource area is currently classed as waste primarily because of dense timber stands with a minimal grass understory and/or very limited access due to the mountainous terrain. Figure 1 illustrates that only 36 percent of the resource area is considered to be a grass type while approximately 60 percent is a timber type (lands unsuitable for grazing). Three to four percent could be classified as true waste i.e., rock cliffs and rock slides. Table 6 presents a summary of the resource area's present vegetative conditions and classifications.

#### Livestock Forage

Under the RMP there will be a short-term reduction of 34 AUMs from 1 allotment and an increase of 379 AUMs on 13 allotments (see Appendix A). These changes will result in a net increase of 5 percent over the present situation in the short term.

In the long term (20 years), there would be an estimated 1,952 AUMs available for livestock use in addition to the 5,951 AUMs presently available (see Appendix A and Table 7). These projections of additional livestock forage are dependent upon implementation of grazing systems, and the installation of range improvements.

All increases (or decreases) in AUM allocations over 15 percent of the current level will be phased in over a five-year period after adequate monitoring to ensure proper stocking levels. Control of noxious weeds,

**TABLE 7**  
**CHANGES IN GRAZING PREFERENCE**

	Total AUMS	Net Increase AUMS	%
Current Authorized Use	5,951	—	—
Short-term Adjustment	6,261	310	5

which is proposed for some 300 acres, would have a local benefit on livestock grazing by stemming the spread of these weeds onto grazing lands and reducing plant competition between the desirable forage plants and the undesirable weeds.

#### Unleased Tracts

A total of 33,770 acres would not be leased for livestock grazing (see Table 8). These include 27,200 acres currently closed, and additional acreage in the Elk Creek, Pearson Creek, and Quigg Peak areas.

Grazing lease #7123 (Lindberg), which is included in the Elk Creek East area, has been removed from livestock grazing as a result of an extensive, coordinated, interagency group study of the wildlife forage requirements in this area. This action will remove 101 AUMs of livestock grazing from the present total AUMs available for use.

**TABLE 6**  
**SUMMARY OF PRESENT VEGETATIVE CONDITIONS AND CLASSIFICATION FOR THE GRA**

Condition/ Classification	Acres Currently Leased						Unleased Areas <sup>2</sup>		Areas Closed To Grazing		GRA Total	
	Improvement (I) Category		Maintenance (M) Category		Custodial (C) Category							
	Acres	%	Acres	%	Acres	%	Acres	%	Acres	%	Acres	%
Excellent	5,699	12	5,549	11	691	6	0	0	35	Trace	11,974	8
Good <sup>1</sup>	7,196	15	12,264	24	1,653	15	0	0	3,892	14	25,005	17
Fair	4,352	9	7,761	15	2,146	19	0	0	66	1	14,325	10
Poor	293	1	1,004	2	39	Trace	0	0	0	0	1,336	1
Waste	23,635	50	20,061	39	2,899	25	0	0	23,207	85	69,802	48
Unclassified	170	Trace	1,163	2	3,594	32	6,141	75	0	0	11,068	8
Logged	6,244	13	3,493	7	363	3	2,050	25	0	0	12,150	8
Column Totals	47,589	100	51,295	100	11,385	100	8,191	100	27,200	100	145,660	100

<sup>1</sup> Does not include acres classified as logged, all of which are assumed to be in good vegetative condition.

<sup>2</sup> Areas available for leasing but not currently leased; mostly small, widely-scattered tracts; generally steep.



**TABLE 8**  
**TRACTS TO REMAIN UNLEASED FOR**  
**LIVESTOCK GRAZING**

Name	Acreage
Chamberlain Creek	5,760
Wales Creek	7,820
Gallagher Creek	3,420
Cottonwood Creek	3,040
Yourname Creek	7,160
Quigg Peak	520
Elk Creek East	4,480
Pearson Creek	1,570
Total	33,770

#### Riparian and Wetland Habitat

Range management affects about 80 percent of riparian and wetland habitat. Through full implementation of AMPs, 3,094 acres of unsatisfactory riparian is expected to improve to satisfactory condition. This amounts to 74 percent improvement. About 1,110 riparian acres outside of AMP allotments would remain in unsatisfactory condition. Short-term impacts will show gradual improvement in the riparian condition attributed to grazing. Over the long term, all riparian AMP acres would be in satisfactory condition. Unsatisfactory riparian acres outside of AMPs would continue as unsatisfactory. Satisfactory riparian (637 acres) in all existing allotments would continue in satisfactory condition for both the short and long term.

#### Aquatic Habitat

Over the long term, increases in AUMs can be expected on all the I allotments and some of the M allotments. Seasonal changes, fencing, and implementation of intensive management plans will allow increased livestock use as AUMs increase and improve the overall condition of aquatic habitat. At the present time, 52 percent of the habitat is in optimum condition, 21 percent is in suboptimum and 27 percent is unclassified. Through implementation of intensive management plans, it is expected that all the suboptimum aquatic habitat will improve to optimum condition.

#### Terrestrial Wildlife Habitat

Terrestrial wildlife habitat in both coniferous and grassland areas would improve in the long term on all I and M category allotments. Improvement would primarily be the result of changing season of use, fencing, and implementation of allotment management plans. Improvement will be expected on about 5,370 acres of big game winter range.

#### Soil and Water

Under the resource management plan, approximately 1,223 acres in poor condition will improve to fair or good condition. AMP implementation will result in reduced soil compaction, reduced stream-bank sloughing, and increased ground cover thereby reducing soil erosion and having a positive effect upon water quality.

#### Forestry

Over half the commercial forest land (44,000 acres) is in the Douglas-fir habitat type. The understory vegetation in this habitat series produces substantial amounts of livestock forage when the canopy is opened up. Approximately 67 percent of this series will be available for livestock grazing. Livestock grazing can adversely impact seedling establishment, survival, and vigor. Implementation of grazing plans, fencing, and additional herding will help prevent conflicts between forest regeneration and livestock use.

#### Social and Economic Conditions

The magnitude of some of these short-term changes could affect the economic viability of some ranches particularly in the smaller sized, high dependency operations. At present, most agricultural operations are facing high production costs and low prices for their products. In reaction to a further reduction of income, individual ranches may be forced to seek outside employment or to cease ranching altogether. This would mean a major change in lifestyle for these people. Conversely those receiving increases in their BLM permits may be better able to survive the current economic situation without having to change their lifestyle.

Under this alternative, 13 allotments would receive increased grazing and 1 allotment would receive reduced grazing use in the short term. Table 9 lists the number of ranches in each size class that will be affected by this alternative. On the average, changes range from less than 1 percent in Class 4 to an increase of 38 percent in Class 2. These changes result in a less than 1 percent increase in income on each size class. Some individuals could receive a large income increase from a larger than average AUM increase. Most however will be very close to the average.

**TABLE 9**  
**NUMBER OF RANCHES IN EACH**  
**SIZE CLASS AFFECTED BY**  
**THE GRAZING PROGRAM**

Size Class	Description	Ranchers Affected in the Short Term	Ranchers Affected in the Long Term
1	less than 100 cows	1	4
2	100 to 250 cows	4	5
3	250 to 500 cows	4	9
4	greater than 500 cows	5	10



## Public Participation

A Federal Register notice was published on February 20, 1981 that announced the formal start of the planning process.

A preliminary list of 17 major issues was mailed to about 600 individuals and organizations for comment in February 1981. Open houses on the issues were held February 25, 1981 in Drummond; February 26, 1981 in Missoula; March 3, 1981 in Philipsburg; and March 5, 1981 in Ovando. The District Advisory Council also reviewed the preliminary issues and the public response to them in March 1981. As a result of the input from about 100 persons who attended the open houses and 60 written comments, issues were redefined and three new ones were added. These were published for further public comment in November 1981. These were subsequently grouped into five broad issues from which the plan developed. The final list was published in August 1982.

Resource inventories were conducted in 1982 and 1983, and a management situation analysis was prepared that examined the capability of the public lands to accommodate the needs and issues previously identified. The criteria for developing the RMP and the District Manager's Concept of the RMP were published for public review in July 1983. Five comments were received.

In early 1984, work began on the formulation of alternatives. Resource specialists aided in the development and made suggestions on resource allocations leading to the analysis of alternatives as laid out in the draft RMP/EIS.

After the draft RMP/EIS was filed with the Environmental Protection Agency in December 1984 and released to the public, a period of 90 days was allowed for public review and comment. The Federal Register of December 14, 1984 carried a notice of availability and announced a public hearing and two open houses at Missoula and Drummond, Montana on February 13, 1985 and February 20, 1985 respectively.

A news release published on December 16, 1984 announced the availability of the draft RMP/EIS and gave a summary of the document. This release, which gave the times and locations for the hearing and open houses, was sent to national wire services, daily newspapers, weekly newspapers, radio stations, and television stations throughout western Montana.

Approximately 400 copies of the draft RMP/EIS were distributed to governmental agencies, businesses, organizations, grazing lessees, and interested individuals. Public reading copies were available at BLM offices in Washington D.C.; Billings, Butte, and Missoula, Montana; the University of Montana and Montana State University; and the public libraries in Missoula, Granite, and Powell counties.

Seven individuals testified at the hearing in Missoula and 47 comment letters were received by the close of the comment period.

In September 1985, the proposed RMP and final EIS was filed with the Environmental Protection Agency and released to the public. The availability of the final EIS was announced in a Federal Register Notice and press release. A 30-day protest period began on September 28, 1985 and ended October 27, 1985. No protests were filed.

In January 1986, the Record of Decision (ROD) was published. The availability of the ROD was announced in a Federal Register Notice and press release. The ROD approved Alternative E as the Garnet Resource Management Plan. The ROD stipulated that:

- a rangeland program summary and appropriate updates would be prepared for the Garnet Resource Area and distributed for public information,

- the proposed decisions adjusting livestock use would then be issued to grazing permittees or lessees, and

- the summary would also identify other specific actions needed to implement the rangeland management guidelines identified in the Garnet RMP.

Other informal coordination with the public took place throughout the planning process by means of personal contacts, phone calls, etc.

## IMPLEMENTATION

### Administrative Actions

This document serves to notify the public of the rangeland management program and as a decision document expanding on the Record of Decision. It specifies no immediate change in authorized livestock grazing use and proposes changes be gradually implemented over the term of this RMP beginning in FY 87.

### Consultation

Consultation will be held with the affected permittees and lessees, federal and state agencies, and other interested parties as part of the plan development process.

### Future Adjustments Based on Monitoring

Allotments that were targeted for adjustment in current authorized use will be monitored to establish proper carrying capacity. Available range survey information will be used as an initial base for evaluation. Reductions or increases will be based on more detailed data, consultation, and/or monitoring of actual use and utilization. Other adjustments needed in grazing management such as changes in the sea-



son of use, class of livestock, and areas of livestock use will be developed through consultation of affected parties and monitoring.

## **Range Improvements and Appropriations**

The proposed range improvements explained previously will be completed as funds are appropriated. With the anticipated overall reduction in government funds and staff, the implementation period will probably be extended. Although the only current source of public funds for range improvements is one-half the grazing fees returned for this purpose, contributions by range users will assist in implementation of the plan. Contributions may be in the form of money or labor. For example, it was recommended that all range management fences be constructed with rancher labor and BLM materials or with a 50 percent contribution from the rancher. It was also recommended that the range user contribute 25 percent of the cost of developing water. BLM has also transferred the responsibility for maintenance of range improvements to the benefiting users to free more range improvement funds for new projects. Cooperation of the range users is essential to the success of this rangeland management program.

## **Periodic Progress Reports**

As this rangeland management program is implemented, a record of progress will be maintained and the specific program details will be contained in a periodic update of this RPS. The publications will provide a summary of progress in meeting management objectives, including the results of monitoring, implementation of range improvements, and proposed changes in grazing management.

## **Future AMP Schedule**

For FY 87 one new AMP, Bonita-Clinton-Potomac, will be completed along with one revision of an existing AMP, Ram Mountain. Tentative plans for FY 88 also include one new AMP, Mulkey-Rattler, and one revision, McElwain Creek, depending on budgetary constraints and resource area priorities.

# APPENDIX A

## SUMMARY OF CURRENT LIVESTOCK USE

The following table summarizes the current livestock use on the allotments in the Garnet Resource Area. Some allotments have been dropped from the list that appeared in the draft RMP/EIS. Allotments 7227 and 7116 were eliminated due to land exchanges. The lease on allotments 7123 and 7124 were dropped by the operators.

A new allotment 7327 has been leased.

Several allotments have new AUM totals. Land exchange caused changes in AUMs on allotments 7101, 7108, 7109, 7207, and 7213. AUM totals increased on allotments 7224 and 7320.

Several allotments in the Garnet RMP were incorrect. The following allotments have corrected AUM totals in this Appendix—7214, 7224, 7320, 7506, 7318, and 7232.

### SUMMARY OF CURRENT AUTHORIZED LIVESTOCK USE

Allot. No.	Allot. Name	Operator Name	Mgmt. Status	Livestock # Class		Season Use	AUMS	
							Current	Short Term
7101	Bonita-Clinton-Potomac	B-C-P Association	I	50	c/c	6/1-9/30	200	250
7102	Weaver	Weaver, Fred	I	27	c/c	6/1-10/15	121	121
7104	Lund #1	Lund Ranch	I	37	c/c	6/1-10/10	145	181
7105	McMahon	McMahon, R.W.	I	14	c/c	6/10-10/9	37	37
7106	Iverson	Iverson, L.	I	11	c/c	6/15-10/15	44	55
7108	Lund #2	Lund Ranch	I	37	c/c	6/10-10/9	148	175
7109	Murray-Douglas Cr.	Aetna Ins.	I	53	y	6/10-10/10	182	182
7110	Shelley	Shelley, M.	C	2	c/c	7/1-8/31	4	4
7111	Joseph	Joseph, Ind.	C	6	c/c	5/1-10/31	11	11
7112	Bearmouth	Mytty, W.	C	5	c/c	5/15-10/15	27	27
7113	Henderson	Henderson, J.M.	C	4	c/c	6/15-10/20	15	15
7114	Enman	Enman	C	5	c/c	5/15-9/30	26	26
7115	Nelson	Nelson Ranch	M	28	c/c	6/16-10/15	113	136
7118	Five Mile	Coughlin, E.	M	23	c/c	7/1-8/31	60	66
7119 &	McElwain Cr. &	Bignell, G. &	M	47	c/c	6/20-9/19	140	175
7120	Common Allot.	Semenza, L.						
7121	Wales Cr	Wales Ranch	M	20	c/c	6/1-8/31	120	120
7122	Koessler	Koessler, H.	M	2	c/c	6/15-10/14	8	15
7201	Devil Mtn	Pilgeram, Z.	C	16	c/c	6/15-10/15	57	57
7202	A. Beck	Beck, Donald	C	7	c/c	6/1-10/15	30	30
7203	D. Beck	Beck, Don	C	21	c/c	6/1-9/30	84	50
7204	L. Beck	Beck, L.	C	11	c/c	6/1-10/15	49	49
7205	Benson	Benson, F.	C	6	c/c	6/1-10/15	27	27
7206	Gimlet Cr.	Tavener, L.	C	5	c/c	7/1-8/1	5	5
7207	Braziel Cr.	Semenza, L.	M	139	y	7/1-9/30	417	417
7208	Sullivan	Sullivan, A.	C	1	c/c	6/1-10/1	1	1
7209	Dingwall	Dingwall, D.	C	1	c/c	3/1-2/28	3	3
7210	Dutton	Dutton Ranch	C	8	c/c	7/1-10/1	23	23
7211	D. Graveley	Graveley, D.	C	2	c/c	6/15-9/30	6	6
7212	C. Graveley	Graveley, C.	M	32	c/c	6/15-9/30	110	110
7213	Marcum Mtn	Pocha, D.	M	54	c/c	6/15-9/30	134	189
7214	Hogan	Hogan, F.	C	6	c/c	6/1-10/15	29	29
7215	Hollenback	Hollenback, J.	C	3	c/c	6/1-10/15	10	10
7216	Keiley	Keiley, E.	M	26	c/c	6/1-8/31	40	40
7217	Lingenfelter	Lingenfelter	C	2	c/c	6/1-9/30	8	8
7218	McCormick	McCormick, M	C	2	c/c	6/1-9/30	7	7
7219	Mannix	Mannix, B.	I	28	c/c	7/20-9/20	55	67
7220	F. Mannix	Mannix, F.	C	2	c/c	6/15-9/30	8	8
7221	Murphy	Murphy, W.	I	15	c/c	6/15-10/15	58	73
7222	Sturgeon Cr	Aetna Ins.	C	12	c/c	6/15-9/15	35	35
7223	Radtke #1	Radtke, M.	C	1	c/c	3/1-2/28	7	7
7224	Warm Sp. Cr.	Castle Mtn. Ranch	M	122	c/c	6/16-10/15	489	556
7225	Wholers	Wholers, R.	C	1	c/c	3/1-2/28	6	6
7226	Weaver	Weaver, J.	C	14	c/c	6/15-8/31	35	35
7228	Henault	Henault & Foster	M	5	c/c	6/15-9/30	15	15
7229	Cochran	Cochran Ranch	M	9	c/c	6/1-10/15	41	41
7230	Geary	Geary Bros.	C	1	c/c	3/1-2/28	5	5



# SUMMARY OF CURRENT AUTHORIZED LIVESTOCK USE

Allot. No.	Allot. Name	Operator Name	Mgmt. Status	Livestock #	Class	Season Use	AUMS	
							Current	Short Term
7231	Sunny Slope	Sunny Slope Assoc.	C	7	c/c	8/15-9/30	10	10
7232	Gilman	Gilman, M.	C	4	c/c	6/15-9/30	15	15
7301	Bauer	Bauer, R.	C	4	c/c	6/5-10/1	13	13
7302	Bisonette	Bisonette, P.	C	5	c/c	5/15-9/15	20	20
7303	Strand	Strand, D.	M	13	c/c	6/1-10/31	65	65
7304	Collins #1	Collins, T.	C	12	c/c	6/15-10/1	42	42
7305	Gillies	Gillies, J.	C	1	c/c	3/1-2/28	8	8
7306	Vick	Vick, D.	C	1	c/c	6/15-10/1	3	3
7307	Jensen	Jensen, W.	C	5	c/c	7/15-10/15	15	15
7308	Jensen Ranch	Hauptman, S.	C	16	c/c	6/1-10/15	56	56
7309	Johnson	Johnson, W.	M	55	c/c	6/25-9/30	164	164
7310	Morrison	Morrison, A.	C	25	c/c	8/15-9/14	25	25
7311	Lane	Lane, C.	M	53	c/c	6/15-10/14	210	210
7312	H. Luthje	Luthje, H.	I	81	c/c	6/1-9/30	324	324
7313	J. Luthje	Luthje, J.	M	53	c/c	7/1-12/31	192	192
7314	Neal #1	Neal, R.	M	48	c/c	5/15-9/30	216	216
7315	Mungas	Mungas, G.	C	6	c/c	6/15-10/15	22	22
7316	Ram Mtn	Neal, R.	M	72	c/c	5/15-10/31	398	398
7317	X Diamond Bar	X Diamond Bar Ranch	C	7	c/c	6/1-9/15	25	25
7318	Radtke #2	Radtke, M.	C	3	c/c	7/1-9/30	11	11
7319	West Fk.	West Fk. Land	M	70	c/c	6/1-8/1	140	140
7320	Stewart Lk.	Vietor	M	73	c/c	6/1-10/15	328	328
7321	Sanders	Sanders, L.	C	12	c/c	6/1-10/15	56	56
7322	Flint Cr.	Firestone, C.	C	8	c/c	6/15-10/15	34	34
7323	Jensen #2	Hauptman	M	28	c/c	6/1-10/15	123	123
7324	Collins #2	Collins, T.	I	31	c/c	6/16-9/30	110	110
7325	Kolbeck	Kolbeck Ranch	C	2	c/c	7/1-9/30	6	6
7326	Spieker	Spieker, N.	C	3	h	6/1-11/30	16	16
7327	Smith	Smith, B.	C	8	c/c	6/16-10/15	28	28
7501	Zosel	Zosel, W.	C	1	c/c	3/1-2/28	5	5
7504	McIntosh	McIntosh, W.	C	5	c/c	6/1-9/30	20	20
7505	Deleo	Deleo, F.	C	1	c/c	6/1-10/1	8	8
7506	Reierson	Reierson, S.	C	3	c/c	6/1-9/30	10	10
7507	Mattice	Mattice, J.	C	10	c/c	6/1-9/30	38	38
TOTAL							5,951	6,261

c/c = cow/calf pair  
I = Improvement  
h = horse

M = Maintenance  
y = yearling  
C = Custodial

# APPENDIX B

## INVENTORY REPORT FOR CULTURAL RESOURCES

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
MONTANA STATE OFFICE

CULTURAL RESOURCES CLASS III  
INVENTORY REPORT

State \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Area \_\_\_\_\_

P.U. \_\_\_\_\_

location of site forms

Inventory Report Number:  
(cross reference to mitigation report)

Project Name:

Project Number:

Case File Number:

Job Code:

Legal Location:

Site Numbers in Inventoried Area:

Ownership:

Project Description:

Field Examiners:

Date of Field Work:

Antiquity Permit or Contract #:

Examination Methodology (include problems and reliability):

Brief Description of Area and Environment:

Cultural Resources Previously Recorded:

MT 8110-1 (October 1978)



Description of Cultural Resources Recorded:

---

Actual/Potential N.R. Properties Affected:

---

Conclusions and Recommendations (further data needs):

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Bibliography:

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Date of Report:

Signature:

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Attach maps and extra sheets as needed.





Form 1279-3  
(June 1984)

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12/1/87 *William J. Carson*

USDI - BLM



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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**  
Bureau of Land Management

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